

## AVAILANCHE OF RAIN, DRIVEN BY 36-MILE GALE, SWEEPS CITY

Storm Does Great Damage to  
Crops in Nearby Mary-  
land and Virginia.

## WATER RACES THROUGH STREETS OF CAPITAL

Many Trees Blown Down, Wires  
Prostrated and Fences and  
Poles Leveled.

## NEAR-HURRICANE ON RIVER

Part of Pier at Chesapeake Beach  
Hurled Into Bay—Pleasure  
Craft Sunk—Much Small  
Game Killed.

A southeast storm, traveling  
the Atlantic coast, swept over  
Washington last night, and for  
twelve hours deluged the city  
with beating rain, accompanied  
by a gale which was measured at  
the weather bureau at thirty-six  
miles an hour. Gales of greater  
severity were reported from other  
places, New York city, for in-  
stance, catching a sixty-mile  
breeze, and unscientific, but thor-  
oughly appreciative, watchers in  
Leonardtown, St. Mary and other  
points in Prince Georges and St.  
Mary counties claim that the  
gale struck there at seventy miles  
an hour.

Reports have been coming in all  
day telling of great damage to  
corn, tobacco and orchards in the  
territory for miles around Wash-  
ington. Trees and telegraph  
poles were slapped to earth and  
lay across railroads and turn-  
pikes this morning, delaying traf-  
fic from several points.

No lives have been lost so far  
as present reports indicate, but  
river damage includes the sinking  
of several launches.

## Came From Florida.

Although the published reports from  
the weather bureau indicated merely  
"sleeting" conditions for last night,  
it was said at the bureau this morning  
that storm warnings had been sent out.  
The storm has been slowly wending its  
way from Florida. It covered a com-  
paratively small area as it bowed  
along, but was extremely severe. The  
storm center on the weather bureau  
map looks like a cannon ball, and cov-  
ered only about fifty miles of area.

The rainfall was heavy for a short  
space of time, the storm extending  
from Raleigh, N. C., the home of the  
Secretary of the Navy, received almost  
two inches as much water. The instru-  
ments there recording a total depth of five  
inches.

## Trees Blown Down.

The police estimate of trees blown  
down in this city reaches fifty. In ad-  
dition hundreds of limbs were broken  
from trees and scattered upon the  
streets. A great portion of these were  
defective and would have been trimmed  
off soon anyhow, saving work for the  
tree trimmers and proving that it is  
an ill wind, etc.

The police had their hands full, as  
the fallen limbs and trees had to be  
marked by lighted lanterns to protect  
pedestrians and drivers from danger.  
The rubber coats worn by the  
men were small use to them, it seemed,  
for the heavy rain was blowing from  
the north, and the men were being  
blown in from duty thorough drenched.  
"Trouble men" from the electric light  
and telephone companies were kept on  
the jump in the night, and rain was  
the night. Two circuits on the fire  
alarm system were put out of com-  
mission for a while, a number of boxes  
in the Tenleytown and Brookland sec-  
tions being affected. Telephone wires  
were not seriously troubled, it was  
reported.

## Streets Like Canals.

In several sections of the city the  
police reported that sewers were ob-  
structed. They were surface sewers  
and their failure to carry off the water  
meant that streets were given the ap-  
pearance of canals or small rivers. At  
18th and D streets and 13th and H  
streets northeast the streets were  
flooded and a similar condition existed  
at 14th and Capitol streets northeast  
and 28th and M streets northwest.  
At 18th and I streets northwest a  
fence was blown across the street,  
while at Florida avenue and 5th street  
northwest a large tree was blown  
down, a roadway being cut off. At  
11th and F streets northwest, a tele-  
graph pole was blown down, and a  
house just this side of Mechanicville,  
travelers reported today. A colored  
family living in the house were routed

out in the middle of the night and  
forced to take shelter in a neighbor's  
home.  
Sheriff Hardy of Prince Georges  
county, Md., who lives on the Silver  
Hill road not far from Surrattsville,  
managed to reach his city in his auto-  
mobile this morning. He reported that  
a number of trees were blown across  
the road, but the obstructions had been  
removed by a public-spirited resident  
of the county, who had a hired man ac-  
company him on his motor truck and  
use his ax with telling effect.  
"The corn looks as if a steam roller  
had gone over it," the sheriff re-  
marked, and other crops were dam-  
aged by the rain and wind.  
"Farmers will not complain, however,  
if they save one-half their crops," he  
added, "as present prices paid for  
produce hardly does much more than  
pay for the hauling."

## Beach Damages.

Many cottagers and campers at  
Chesapeake Beach and North Beach,  
Md., spent a sleepless night, as the  
wind and rain struck there with great  
severity than in many other local-  
ities. Several hundred feet of the  
Chesapeake Beach Company's long pier  
was washed away, sections of it being  
driven as far as North Beach, a mile  
distant. Many trees in the park and  
on the sloping lawns were uprooted.  
The wide, flat country lying between  
Chesapeake Beach and North Beach  
was a lake this morning. Commuters,  
who usually use the connecting trolley  
line between the beaches, had to take  
shoes off and wade along the beach  
roadway today. T. A. Wickersham's  
motor launch was driven from its  
moorings and sank a mile from its  
usual anchorage. The bathing beach  
wire fencing, some of the boardwalk  
and guard rails were damaged.

## Much Game Killed.

It is feared the storm killed much  
game in the surrounding country.  
Rabbits and quail are said to be more  
plentiful this year than usual, and  
drenching rain, it is thought, drowned  
many of them. Hundreds of English  
sparrows were drowned in this city.  
Scores of ducks were killed in sev-  
eral places and a side walk in the vicinity  
of Pennsylvania avenue and 7th street  
this morning was covered with them.

## Attempts to Communicate with Colonial Beach from Here Today Were Met with the Response that Telephone Lines to That Point are Down in sev- eral places and that nothing definite could be predicted as to when they would be repaired.

## One of Heaviest on River.

Rivermen describe the storm of last  
night as one of the heaviest that have  
swept the river in recent years, with  
the possible exception of the heavy  
northeaster of the latter part of July  
two years ago. That storm was only of  
a few hours' duration, while the one  
of yesterday started down river about  
7 o'clock yesterday evening and con-  
tinued through the night, reaching its  
greatest violence after 10 o'clock.

Officers of the steamer Wakefield,  
which arrived here about daybreak, say  
the wind reached hurricane force, and  
the rain was so heavy that nothing  
could be seen of lights or buoys. The  
river and bay steamers all arrived here  
undamaged, on good time.  
The steamer Frederick A. Murray, bound  
from this city to Mattox creek, was in  
early this morning on the K. R. R. wharf  
of the storm developed, and she is re-  
ported to have remained there until it  
was about 10 o'clock.

About the river front little damage  
was done, the harbor being well pro-  
tected from the force of easterly  
storms. The storm caused the water  
to back up in the river and the oyster  
harbors and other low piers were cov-  
ered by a heavy sea.

## The Corinthian Yacht Club, on the Virginia side of the river at the south end of the High Bridge, reported that it was hit by the force of the gale, but comparatively little damage was done to the club berth, filled and sank, but beyond the watersparks they received they are reported undamaged. The club state that pleasure craft were damaged, but the buildings escaped.

## Craft Reported Ashore.

L. A. Clarke & Sons received word  
this morning that their launch Vir-  
ginia and steam lighter Boo Hoo, had  
gone ashore at the mouth of the river  
last night, and that the launch and  
their schooner Bush is ashore at High  
Point.

## The bulk of the old steamboat Capital City, which was wrecked at the mouth last night, but was shoved back into the river again this morning.

## Corn, Tobacco, Wheat Damaged.

## UPPER MARLBORO, Md., August 4.

A severe windstorm, accompanied by  
rain, swept over the greater portion of  
Prince Georges county last night, the  
wind reaching a velocity of forty miles  
an hour about midnight. Corn, to-  
bacco and wheat were damaged, while  
ripening fruit was blown from the  
trees. The roads were badly washed  
in places and trees blown down.

## In Hyattsville the streets were strewn with debris and awnings were literally torn into threads. Shutters were blown away, and many roofs were blown from houses.

## THREE INCHES OF RAIN AND A FORTY-MILE GALE

## Much Minor Damage Reported in Vi- cinity of Philadelphia by Last Night's Storm.

## PHILADELPHIA, August 4.—Con- siderable minor damage was done in this section early today by a heavy rainstorm, which was accompanied by a high wind. Nearly three inches of rain fell and the wind reached a max- imum velocity of forty miles an hour at 4 a.m. During most of the night the wind was in the thirties, according to the weather bureau.

## The railroads reported minor wash- outs, which did not greatly delay traf- fic. The Delaware and Schuylkill riv- ers were high, the former being out of its banks at low points in this city.

## There was much damage to crops and fruit trees reported.

## Reports from seashore points along the southern New Jersey and Delaware coasts stated that while the wind was high and the rain heavy there was no serious damage.

## BELGIAN STEAMER SUNK BY GERMAN SUBMARINE

## LONDON, August 4, 1:55 p.m.—The Belgian steamer Koophandel, of 1,885 tons gross, was sunk today by a Ger- man submarine. Nine men of the crew were killed.

## The Koophandel was built at West Hartlepool in 1911. The vessel was 278 feet long, forty feet beam and eighteen feet deep.

## FIFTY LIVES LOST IN FLOODS AT ERIE, RESULT OF STORM

All-Day Rain, Supplemented by  
Cloudburst, Causes Havoc  
in Pennsylvania City.

## DAMAGE TO PROPERTY PLACED AT \$3,000,000

Wall of Water Ten Feet in Depth  
Sweeps Through  
Streets.

## MANY FAMILIES HOMELESS

Mills and Factories Likely to Be  
Idle for Weeks—Destruction  
in Other Sections of  
Country.

ERIE, Pa., August 4.—Day-  
light here broke over a flood-  
stricken city, with its business  
streets running rivers of water.  
The estimated loss of fifty lives,  
property damage estimated at  
\$3,000,000, scores of homes and  
dozens of factories swept away  
and the distress of homeless hun-  
dreds were the effect of an un-  
precedented storm which struck  
Erie and the immediate vicinity  
last night.

Coroner D. S. Hanley shortly  
before noon today estimated that  
fifty persons perished. Mayor  
Stern, at 10 o'clock, said the num-  
ber probably would not exceed  
twenty-five, but after a survey of  
the debris and checking over a  
list of missing, Coroner Hanley  
raised the estimate to fifty.

After almost an all-day rain a  
heavy thundershower culminated  
in a cloudburst. For an hour res-  
idents along the course of Mill  
creek, through the east center of  
the city, watched the slow rise of  
the stream, due to a rainfall of  
nearly three inches in six hours.

At 8:45 the Glenwood dam,  
three miles above the city, burst,  
and a huge wall of water swept  
down through the city, carrying  
with it the homes of those who  
had waited until the last minute  
to leave, and in several cases the  
families still refused to seek  
safety.

## Recovery of Bodies.

With the coming of daybreak Erie  
turned to the task of recovering the  
bodies of victims of the cloudburst  
and flood, and at 9 o'clock fourteen had  
been placed in the temporary morgue.  
The flood, caused by the overflow of  
one and a half miles of water, dis-  
tributed in the city, swept through a  
section of the city a block in width  
and a mile long.

## John Donovan, forty-four years old, of Paradise street, Emma Osborne, forty-four years old, of 28th street, James Higgins, seventeen years old, of 28th street, Mrs. John Higgins and infant, Mrs. Cora Anderson Main, twenty- eight years old, of 28th street, Katherine E. Carroll, Thomas Langdon, Mayor Stern has made a request for help from the 16th Regiment of the Pennsylvania National Guard to patrol the ruined section of the city.

## Police and Firemen Work All Night.

The police and fire forces of the city  
worked throughout the night on the  
ruins, recovering the fourteen bodies  
from an area that included approxi-  
mately one-half of the devastated dis-  
trict. The men worked under the di-  
rection of Mayor W. J. Stern and the  
four members of the city council. The  
district swept by the flood extends  
from 26th street and French street, in  
the uptown business section, to 10th  
and State streets, a distance of about  
a mile.

## The release of the water held back by the dam sent a huge wave five feet high toward the city, and by the time it reached the first buildings on 26th street it was created with a mass of debris that acted like a huge battering ram.

## Danger from falling high-tension electric wires became apparent soon after dawn, and the authorities threw a heavy guard of police and volun- teers around the flooded section. Many poles, weighted with wires and under- mined by the flood, dropped into the streets.

## Four Blocks Submerged.

Four blocks on either side of the  
streets, including State street, the main  
business artery of the city, were cov-  
ered with a depth from six inches to  
five feet.

## The Loemhuis wagon works and the Nelson machine shop, each occupying nearly half a block, were the largest structures to be swept away.

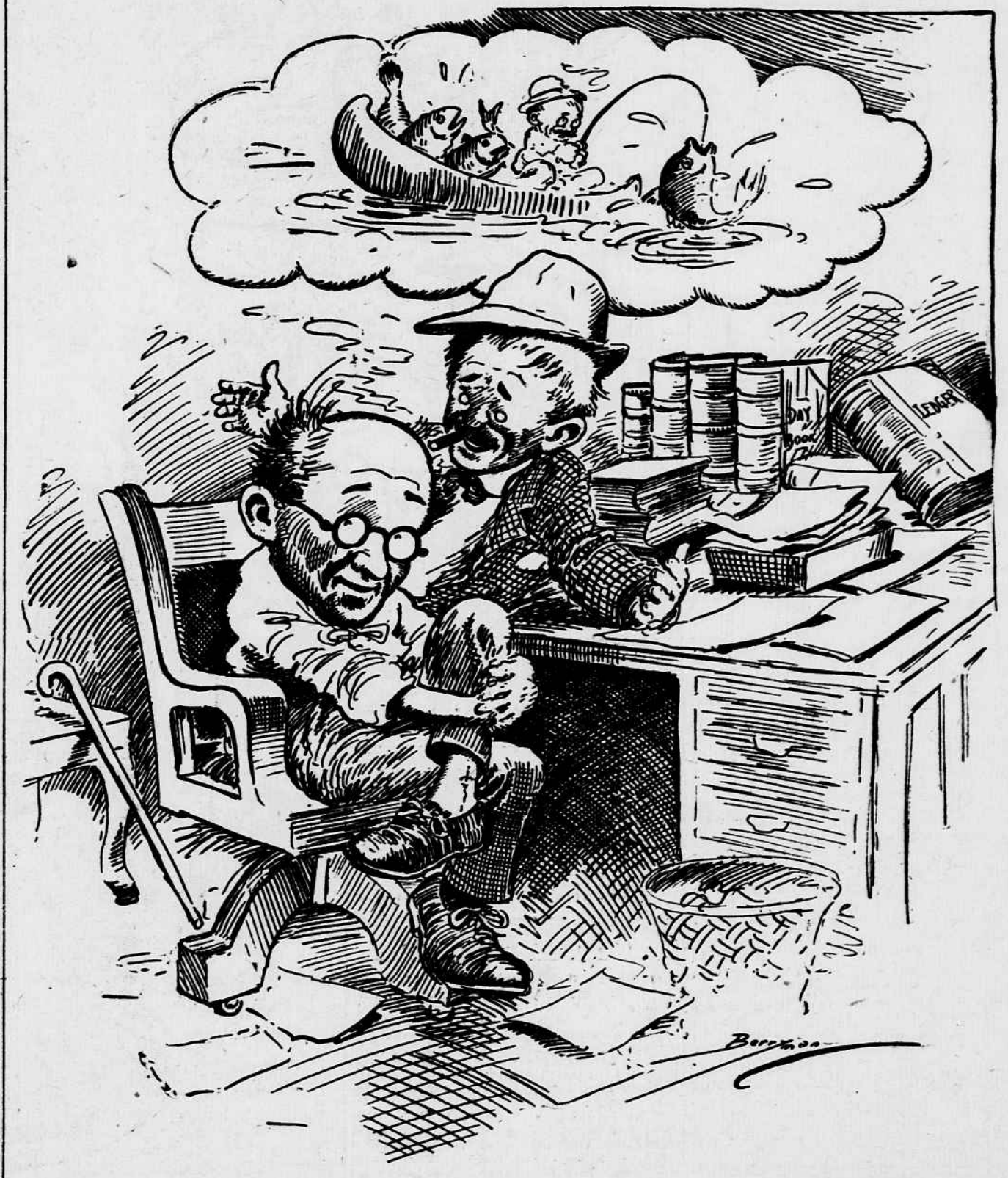
## The Jaracki and Lovell wood working plants, two of the largest manufactur- ies in the city, were covered with debris.

## Early this morning gas mains all over the city were cut off and tele- phone, street car and electric lighting service was paralyzed.

## The charitable societies, the army, hospitals and many organized shelter clubs gave refuge to hundreds who saved by their own lives and a few mailed belongings.

## The danger of broken electric wires and the twenty-five-mile current of the flood made the work of rescue extremely perilous, and even de- fied the efforts of the police and fire- men.

## (Continued on Ninth Page.)



SPREADING THE CONTAGION.

## NECK-AND-NECK RACE FOR GOVERNORSHIP

Returns From Mississippi Primary  
Show Leading Candidates Are  
Close Together.

## JACKSON, Miss., August 4.—Returns from yesterday's democratic primary election in Mississippi today continued to come in slowly from various parts of the state. The vote received thus far from scattered precincts in the sixty-five coun- ties showed that Marion W. Reilly of Natchez was leading Theodore C. Bilbo, lieutenant governor, by about 1,000 votes for the nomination for governor. The vote for the three other aspirants, H. M. Quinn, P. S. Stovall and John R. Tally, was comparatively small, but indications were that a second primary probably will be necessary August 23 to decide between Bilbo and Reilly for the gubernatorial nomination.

## A majority of the returns received from cities and towns, and Bilbo claimed the vote in the country districts will place him in the lead.

## Indications early today were that E. B. Carter has been nominated lieutenant governor over Russell by about 20,000 majority. For other state offices for which there were contests returns thus far showed E. Wilson leading E. J. Smith for auditor and Dr. J. P. Taylor leading John Sheffield for treasurer.

## Re-turns received up to noon from 315 of 1,200 precincts in the state gave for governor: Reilly, 22,800; Bilbo, 19,200; combined for the three other contestants, 6,000. On the face of returns at hand the vote for Bilbo is said to be about 30 per cent under that for Reilly, four years ago for lieutenant governor.

## Admitting the unusual conditions which Great Britain contends are ba- rriers for exceptional action, the Ameri- can reply will continue to contest the legality of taking ships from the high seas on voyages to neutral ports.

## It is understood the American gov- ernment will differentiate from ships on the high seas and ships which go to British ports or which attempt to run blockaded lines. The British argument that American commerce has not suf- fered also will be contested.

## One of the latest developments in the controversy has reached the stage of an academic discussion, with some talk of a submission to an international arbitral commission as a way out of the deadlock.

## KILLS SUNDAY BLUE LAWS.

## Alabama Senate Will Not Restrict Sabbath Amusements.

## MONTGOMERY, Ala., August 4.—At a night session of the senate the drastic Sunday blue laws measure met with defeat by a vote of 24 to 7. Nearly 40,000 signatures attached to petitions from the larger cities of the state were presented. The bill provided for pro- hibition of base ball, moving pictures and all Sunday amusements except golf. An amendment was adopted which gave cities of over 25,000 the power to regulate Sunday amusements through city commissions. When the amended bill was passed the author- ity was given to the cities to make their own laws, and after a long fight the state was cleaned of all Sunday amuse- ments.

## AMERICAN CARGOES HELD.

## Vessels Carrying Cottonseed and Wheat Taken in Custody.

## LONDON, August 4.—The Danish steamship Hulda Maersk, which sailed from Savannah July 10 and Norfolk July 13, for Malmö, Sweden, with a cargo of cottonseed, is being detained in a port of the United Kingdom by the British authorities.

## COPENHAGEN, via London, August 4.—The Malmö (Sweden) correspond- ent of Berlingske Tidende telegraphs that several ships laden with wheat from the United States have been de- tained by the Danish authorities, owing to the discovery that the wheat, which was consigned to a Malmö mer- chant, was destined to Germany. Three large steamers, to which it was in- tended to transfer the wheat, also are held.

## Would Impeach Purifoy.

## Alabama House Advised Removal of Secretary of State.

## MONTGOMERY, Ala., August 4.—By a vote of ten to five the house judi- ciary committee early this morning voted to recommend to the house the filing of articles of impeachment against John Purifoy, secretary of state, on charges of failing to make an accounting of \$1,000 alleged to have been paid to James H. Nunnelle, in consideration of Nunnelle's withdrawal from the race for secretary of state, with sub- committee has been appointed to charged with the duty of preparing the articles of impeachment. Purifoy has held state offices since 1880, serving as probate judge, member of the lower house, auditor, examiner of public ac- counts, state treasurer and secretary of state.

## REPLY WILL CONTEST BRITISH CONTENTION

Answer to London's Latest  
Notes on U. S. Commerce  
Ready for Dispatch.

## President Wilson's reply to Great Britain's latest notes rejecting the Ameri- can demands for relief from interfer- ence with neutral commerce under the orders in council is practically ready to be dispatched to London.

## Although Great Britain's notes were made public only today and the State Department received them only Mon- day, the American government knew the British views through informal conferences between American and British officials here and in London, and had framed its reply before the notes were received. It is believed there will be little change in the answer already prepared when it goes to London.

## Trend Toward Commission.

## Admitting the unusual conditions which Great Britain contends are ba- rriers for exceptional action, the Ameri- can reply will continue to contest the legality of taking ships from the high seas on voyages to neutral ports.

## It is understood the American gov- ernment will differentiate from ships on the high seas and ships which go to British ports or which attempt to run blockaded lines. The British argument that American commerce has not suf- fered also will be contested.

## One of the latest developments in the controversy has reached the stage of an academic discussion, with some talk of a submission to an international arbitral commission as a way out of the deadlock.

## KILLS SUNDAY BLUE LAWS.

## Alabama Senate Will Not Restrict Sabbath Amusements.

## MONTGOMERY, Ala., August 4.—At a night session of the senate the drastic Sunday blue laws measure met with defeat by a vote of 24 to 7. Nearly 40,000 signatures attached to petitions from the larger cities of the state were presented. The bill provided for pro- hibition of base ball, moving pictures and all Sunday amusements except golf. An amendment was adopted which gave cities of over 25,000 the power to regulate Sunday amusements through city commissions. When the amended bill was passed the author- ity was given to the cities to make their own laws, and after a long fight the state was cleaned of all Sunday amuse- ments.

## AMERICAN CARGOES HELD.

## Vessels Carrying Cottonseed and Wheat Taken in Custody.

## LONDON, August 4.—The Danish steamship Hulda Maersk, which sailed from Savannah July 10 and Norfolk July 13, for Malmö, Sweden, with a cargo of cottonseed, is being detained in a port of the United Kingdom by the British authorities.

## COPENHAGEN, via London, August 4.—The Malmö (Sweden) correspond- ent of Berlingske Tidende telegraphs that several ships laden with wheat from the United States have been de- tained by the Danish authorities, owing to the discovery that the wheat, which was consigned to a Malmö mer- chant, was destined to Germany. Three large steamers, to which it was in- tended to transfer the wheat, also are held.

## Would Impeach Purifoy.

## Alabama House Advised Removal of Secretary of State.

## MONTGOMERY, Ala., August 4.—By a vote of ten to five the house judi- ciary committee early this morning voted to recommend to the house the filing of articles of impeachment against John Purifoy, secretary of state, on charges of failing to make an accounting of \$1,000 alleged to have been paid to James H. Nunnelle, in consideration of Nunnelle's withdrawal from the race for secretary of state, with sub- committee has been appointed to charged with the duty of preparing the articles of impeachment. Purifoy has held state offices since 1880, serving as probate judge, member of the lower house, auditor, examiner of public ac- counts, state treasurer and secretary of state.

## STEP TO RESTORE PEACE IN HAITI WINS SUPPORT

Gen. Blot Accedes to Plan of Rear  
Admiral Caperton, Resign-  
ing Post.

## Rear Admiral Caperton's first step to restore peace and government in the Island of Haiti has won the co-operation of Gen. Blot, commander of the mili- tary forces of the late President Guil- laume, who was killed by a mob on the recent uprising. Gen. Blot has acceded to the request of Admiral Caperton that he resign his military post and head a movement to organize a commis- sion to administer the civil affairs of Haiti.

## Admiral Caperton's plan for disarm- ing the natives and making a peace- ful agreement between the military and political factions seems assured of success.

## The mixed commission sent to Cape Haitien by Admiral Caperton had in- structions to prevail upon the forces of the north to disarm and to bring Blot and Bolivar, another leader, to Port au Prince to co-operate in the peace movement.

## Bobo Has Not Yielded.

## Bobo has not yielded, and his revolu- tionaries are reported menacing Cape Haitien, necessitating landing of sail- ors from the gunboat Nashville. No report of this latter development, how- ever, has been received from Admiral Caperton.

## Rear Admiral Benson, acting sec- retary of the navy, said today that with arrival of the battleship Connecticut at Port au Prince, 1,300 marines and bluejackets could be landed in an emergency.

## "We do not contemplate sending any more reinforcements to Haiti," said Admiral Benson. "But, if it becomes necessary, we will send the armored cruiser Tennessee, now at New York."

## Rebels Enter Cape Haitien.

## CAPE HAITIEN, August 4.—Govern- ment officials who have been in this city have fled to Port au Prince on the dispatch boat Pacific. Revolution- ary troops are beginning to enter the city, and marines have been landed from the United States gunboat Nash- ville to maintain order.

## SINKING OF A BRITISH TRANSPORT IS REPORTED

## BERLIN, August 4, via wireless to Sayville.—The Overseas News Agency has made public an Athens dispatch saying that a German submarine had sunk the British transport Arneiron and that a majority of the crew of the vessel were drowned.

## PLANS FOR GERMAN LOAN.

## Banks Reported in Good Condition to Take Care of Issue.

## BERLIN, via London, August 4.—The chief business of the reichstag, which assembles August 19, will be to vote new credits for war purposes. While the details of the new bonds have not been arranged, it is assumed in bank- ing circles that the amount, like that of the last loan, will be unlimited. The rate will be 5 per cent, but the sub- scription price is expected to be some- what above 95, as compared with 98 1/2 for the March loan.

## The prospects for the success of the next loan are regarded as being highly satisfactory. The great German banks say they have completely sold out their bonds of the two previous war loans and now have unusually heavy deposits. These recently were swollen so abnormally that the Berlin banks are reducing the rate paid on current deposits to the normal level.

## Airmen Bombard Constantinople.

## LONDON, August 4.—Telegraphing from Petrograd, the Morning Post correspondent says that Russian avi- ators have flown over Constantinople and dropped a number of bombs on the harbor works.

## ENVOYS TO DISCUSS STRIKE IN MEXICO

Pan-Americans to Consider  
Plans to Bring Peace to  
That Republic.

## FIVE PROPOSITIONS UNDER CONSIDERATION

Final Appeal, Munitions Embargo,  
Carranza's Recognition, Selection  
of President, Intervention.

When the diplomatic represen-  
tatives of six South and Central  
American republics meet with  
Secretary Lansing of the State  
Department tomorrow afternoon  
in the State Department at 2:30  
o'clock, to discuss the Mexican  
situation, among the important  
questions which, it is expected,  
will be considered are the follow-  
ing:

A final appeal to the various